

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A method comprising:
identifying a preference;
selecting a content item based on the preference;
storing an initial portion of the content item in a temporary storage cache;
receiving a request for the content item;
streaming the initial portion of the content item from the temporary storage cache to a stream synchronizer in response to the request;
producing a resultant stream using the initial portion of the content item; and
seamlessly transitioning the resultant stream from the initial portion of the content item to an entire segment of the content item.
2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the preference is associated with a user.
3. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the preference includes a playlist.
4. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the resultant stream mirrors the entire segment of the content.
5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising identifying a user associated with the preference.
6. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content includes one of a document, an image, audio data, and video data.
7. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising transmitting the entire segment of the content to a stream buffer in response to the request.

8. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the transmitting the entire segment of the content occurs simultaneously with streaming the initial portion.
9. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the seamlessly transitioning occurs in real-time.
10. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising presenting the resultant stream beginning with the initial portion and subsequently followed by a portion of the entire segment.
11. (original) A system comprising:
means for identifying a preference;
means for selecting a content item based on the preference;
means for storing an initial portion of the content item in a temporary storage cache;
means for receiving a request for the content item;
means for streaming the initial portion of the content item from the temporary storage cache to a stream synchronizer in response to the request;
means for producing a resultant stream using the initial portion of the content item; and
means for seamlessly transitioning the resultant stream from the initial portion of the content item to an entire segment of the content item.
12. (previously presented) A method comprising:
storing an initial portion of a selected content item in a temporary storage cache;
streaming the initial portion of the selected content item from the temporary storage cache to a stream synchronizer;
simultaneously loading an entire segment of the selected content item to the stream synchronizer while streaming the initial portion;
producing a resultant stream comprising the initial portion of the selected content item;
and
seamlessly transitioning the resultant stream from the initial portion of the content item to the entire segment of the content item.

13. (original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising identifying a preference.
14. (original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the content is selected from a plurality of content in response, in part, to the preference.
15. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the transitioning occurs in real-time.
16. (original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising requesting the content.
17. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the content includes one of a document, an image, audio data, and video data.
18. (original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising displaying the resultant stream.
19. (previously presented) A system comprising:
means for storing an initial portion of a selected content item in a temporary storage cache;
means for streaming the initial portion of the selected content item from the temporary storage cache to a stream synchronizer;
means for simultaneously loading an entire segment of the selected content item to the stream synchronizer while streaming the initial portion;
means for producing a resultant stream comprising the initial portion of the selected content item; and
means for seamlessly transitioning the resultant stream from the initial portion of the content item to the entire segment of the content item.

20. (previously presented) A system comprising:
a media server configured for storing an entire segment of content;
a client device configured for storing an initial portion of the content wherein the client device is configured to display the content by streaming a resultant stream from the initial portion of the content while simultaneously receiving the entire segment of the content and seamlessly substituting the entire segment of the content for the initial portion using a stream synchronizer.
21. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the client device is configured to store the initial portion of the content prior to a request for the content.
22. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the client device is configured to receive the entire segment subsequent to a request for the content.
23. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the client device further comprises a preference data module configured for storing information relating to the content.
24. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the client device further comprises a temporary storage cache configured for storing the initial portion of the content.
25. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the client device further comprises a stream buffer configured for receiving the entire segment of the content.
26. (original) The system according to claim 20, wherein the content includes one of a document, an image, audio data, and video data.
27. (currently amended) A method comprising:
identifying a user;
identifying a preference;
generating a content list using the preference and the user;
selecting a content item from the content list based on the preference, wherein the content item is a data file having a defined beginning point and ending point;
prefetching an initial portion of the content item;
storing the initial portion of the content item in a temporary storage cache;

receiving a request for the content item;
streaming the initial portion of the content item from the temporary storage cache to a stream synchronizer in response to the request;
producing a resultant stream output from the stream synchronizer using the initial portion of the content item;
streaming an entire segment of the content item to the stream synchronizer via a stream buffer while the initial portion of the content item is streaming to the stream synchronizer from the temporary storage cache;
synchronizing the streaming initial portion of the content item and the streaming entire segment of the content item within the stream synchronizer; and
seamlessly transitioning the resultant stream from the initial portion of the content item to the entire segment of the content item before the initial portion ends.